Quiz 14 - Chapter 11 – Local Government  
  
1. Anyone who lives in a metropolitan area is likely to be governed by   
a. municipal and county governments.   
b. school districts.   
c. hospital districts.   
d. all of the above.   
   
2. All of the following are examples of local governments in Texas except   
a. county.   
b. municipal.   
c. town.   
d. special district.   
   
3. \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ are creatures of the state and have only as much power as the Texas Constitution and Texas legislature grant them.   
a. Counties   
b. Special districts   
c. School districts   
d. All of the above   
   
4. All local governments are bound by all of the following except   
a. federal laws.   
b. state laws.   
c. the U.S. Constitution.   
d. municipal codes.   
   
5. The relationship between states and local governments follows from the fact that states have a \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ system of government.   
a. confederacy   
b. unitary   
c. federal   
d. federation   
   
6. Texas cities are classified as either   
a. incorporated or unincorporated.   
b. partisan or nonpartisan.   
c. general-law or home-rule.   
d. homogenous or heterogeneous.   
   
7. Which of the following allows registered voters to force a sometimes reluctant city council to place a proposed ordinance on the ballot?   
a. Initiative   
b. Earmarking   
c. Mandate   
d. None of the above   
   
8. Which of the following is a limit placed on home-rule cities in Texas?   
a. State law determines the specific dates for municipal elections.   
b. Local government is subject to sunshine laws.   
c. All local election law changes must meet federal preclearance requirements.   
d. All of the above.   
   
9. In a council-manager form of government, who is responsible for both executing council policies and managing the day-to-day operations of city government?   
a. Elected city council members   
b. The mayor   
c. The city manager   
d. The presiding officer of the city council   
   
10. The powers of the city manager come from   
a. a city charter.   
b. passage of fundamental law.   
c. federal statutes.   
d. the state constitution.   
   
11. Which of the following is considered a restriction on the powers of the mayor in some strong-mayor council systems of government?   
a. Nonpartisan elections   
b. Ethics   
c. Campaign finance laws   
d. All of the above   
   
12. In Texas, political parties do not   
a. nominate candidates below the county level.   
b. mention party affiliation on the ballot.   
c. increase voter turnout in the municipal and special district elections.   
d. all of the above.   
   
13. Which type of election system has served as the primary means of increasing minority representation on city councils?   
a. Pure at-large   
b. At-large place   
c. Multi-member districts   
d. Single-member districts   
   
14. The idea that city hall is best governed by new blood and fresh ideas and that limiting the number of terms for council members in the best way to achieve that goal is known as   
a. single-member district.   
b. term limits.   
c. weak council member system.   
d. weak manager council member system.   
   
15. Which factors influence the sources and amount of revenue used to meet a city’s budgetary obligations?   
a. Size of the city’s population   
b. The amount and type of taxes a city is allowed to levy   
c. The total assessed value of taxable property within the city limits   
d. All of the above   
   
16. Property appraisals in all local governments are done by which of the following?   
a. County clerks   
b. Tax-assessor collectors   
c. Countywide appraisal authority   
d. County auditors   
   
17. Some Texas cities have taken measures to limit increases in property taxes by   
a. issuing a property tax cap of $0.68 per $200 valuation of property.   
b. allowing the ability to petition for a rollback election.   
c. freezing property taxes for the disabled and the elderly.   
d. having flexibility about freezing and unfreezing property taxes.   
   
18. Which of the following is not considered a city user fee?   
a. Electricity rates   
b. Garbage collection fees   
c. Ad valorem   
d. Ambulance service fees   
   
19. Local governments use public debt (normally bond issues that must be approved by the voters in a referendum) to fund which of the following?   
a. City services   
b. Public assistance   
c. Roads, buildings, and public facilities   
d. Health care   
   
20. Big cities in Texas have suffered less than many other U.S. cities from “white flight,” urban decay, the evacuation of industry, and declining tax bases; one reason they have escaped some of the worst of these problems is   
a. the state’s board of annexation laws.   
b. extraterritorial jurisdiction.   
c. mandates.   
d. changing demographics. 